

Message

From: Franklin, Kathy [Franklin.Kathy@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/31/2017 1:48:47 PM
To: Belke, Jim [Belke.Jim@epa.gov]; Lisa Long [long.lisa@dol.gov]; Jeffrey Wanko [wanko.jeffrey@dol.gov]; Jennings, Kim [Jennings.Kim@epa.gov]; Jim Lay [lay.jim@dol.gov]
CC: Gioffre, Patricia [Gioffre.Patricia@epa.gov]; Cheatham, Reggie [cheatham.reggie@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: Arkema in Crosby TX Explodes

This article is saying more explosions could happen.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4838840/Texas-chemical-plant-poised-explode-amid-Harvey-flood.html>

Water rises inside Harvey SHELTER as evacuees wait for help

www.dailymail.co.uk

Just after 2am on Thursday, two explosions and black smoke were reported at Arkema Inc plant in Crosby, Texas, days after it lost power amid Hurricane and Tropical ...

Kathy Franklin || Office of Emergency Management ||
US Environmental Protection Agency || MC:5104-A ||
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460
202-564-7987 office || franklin.kathy@epa.gov

From: Belke, Jim
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 9:39:20 AM
To: Lisa Long; Jeffrey Wanko; Jennings, Kim; Jim Lay
Cc: Franklin, Kathy; Gioffre, Patricia; Cheatham, Reggie
Subject: RE: Arkema in Crosby TX Explodes

USA Today is reporting that they have the following chemicals on site:

Acetone
Benzoyl chloride
Chlorodifluoromethane
Cumene
Cumene hydroperoxide
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate
Ethylbenzene
Ethylene glycol
Hydrochloric acid
Mercury

Methyl ethyl ketone
n-Hexane
Sodium hydroxide
Sodium sulfate
Sulfuric acid
Butyl alcohol

Interestingly, they don't report in that list either of the 2 RMP-regulated substances on the site – sulfur dioxide and 2-methylpropene. So I would not put too much faith in this information just yet.

USA today article link: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2017/08/31/explosions-chemical-plant/619533001/>

Jim

From: Long, Lisa - OSHA [mailto:Long.Lisa@dol.gov]

Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 8:25 AM

To: Jeffrey Wanko <wanko.jeffrey@dol.gov>; Jennings, Kim <Jennings.Kim@epa.gov>; Jim Lay <lay.jim@dol.gov>

Cc: Belke, Jim <Belke.Jim@epa.gov>; Franklin, Kathy <Franklin.Kathy@epa.gov>; Gioffre, Patricia <Gioffre.Patricia@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Arkema in Crosby TX Explodes

Yes – thanks for sending this Kim. I know that they don't know what exploded, but if it is the cumene hydroperoxide is listed in Appendix A with a threshold quantity of 5000 lbs.

From: Wanko, Jeffrey - OSHA

Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 8:22 AM

To: Jennings, Kim; Long, Lisa - OSHA; Lay, Jim - OSHA

Cc: Belke, Jim; Franklin, Kathy; Gioffre, Patricia

Subject: RE: Arkema in Crosby TX Explodes

You are awesome, Kim. Thank you. This is very helpful.

Do you know from your RMP submittals how long Arkema has owned the site? Arkema is a relatively new player on the chemical scene, having formed in 2006 from Total and Elf-Atochem and others, I guess. Was this an Arkema greenfield site, or did they take it over?

BTW, who is your new data person now that Peter has retired?

Thanks

Jeff

From: Jennings, Kim [mailto:Jennings.Kim@epa.gov]

Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 8:15 AM

To: Long, Lisa - OSHA; Lay, Jim - OSHA; Wanko, Jeffrey - OSHA

Cc: Belke, Jim; Franklin, Kathy; Gioffre, Patricia

Subject: FW: Arkema in Crosby TX Explodes

Hi all,

Since we discussed this yesterday during the EO call, I wanted to pass along recent information about the Arkema facility and the recent explosion.

Thanks,
Kim

Kim Jennings
Division Director || Regulations Implementation Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency || Office of Emergency Management
E-mail: jennings.kim@epa.gov || Desk: (202) 564-7998 ||

From: Belke, Jim
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 8:04 AM
To: Jennings, Kim <Jennings.Kim@epa.gov>; Irizarry, Gilberto <Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov>
Cc: Gioffre, Patricia <Gioffre.Patricia@epa.gov>; Oh, Peter <Oh.Peter@epa.gov>; Woodyard, Josh <Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov>; Cheatham, Reggie <cheatham.reggie@epa.gov>; Clark, Becki <Clark.Beki@epa.gov>; Franklin, Kathy <Franklin.Kathy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Arkema in Crosby TX Explodes

Non-OCA RMP for Arkema is attached. They have two RMP-regulated substances: sulfur dioxide (toxic) and 2-methylpropene (flammable). The organic peroxides they manufacture (which are what exploded) are not regulated under RMP, but I believe some of them (e.g., cumene hydroperoxide) are regulated under the OSHA PSM standard.

Jim

From: Jennings, Kim
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 6:50 AM
To: Irizarry, Gilberto <Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov>
Cc: Gioffre, Patricia <Gioffre.Patricia@epa.gov>; Belke, Jim <Belke.Jim@epa.gov>; Oh, Peter <Oh.Peter@epa.gov>; Woodyard, Josh <Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov>; Cheatham, Reggie <cheatham.reggie@epa.gov>; Clark, Becki <Clark.Beki@epa.gov>; Franklin, Kathy <Franklin.Kathy@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Arkema in Crosby TX Explodes

Thanks Tito,

We are available to assist. As I understand from reading about this facility yesterday, the facility owner/operator was aware of the possibility of an explosion, and had evacuated their employees and was monitoring it from a remote site. Also it is in a fairly remote area as I recall.
me

Let us know what you need. Also adding in Kathy.

Thanks,
Kim

On Aug 31, 2017, at 5:34 AM, Irizarry, Gilberto <Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov> wrote:

RID:

See below. We will likely need your assistance questions and information that is likely to come up relative to this plant. The HQ will reach out.

Thanks,

Gilberto "Tito" Irizarry
Director, Preparedness & Response Ops Division

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
USEPA
O: 202-564-7982
C: 202-821-8138

Sent from my iPhone, please excuse typos.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Fife, Greg" <fife.greg@epa.gov>
Date: August 31, 2017 at 4:49:59 AM EDT
To: R6 Response Notify <R6_Response_Notify@epa.gov>
Subject: Arkema in Crosby TX Explodes

The National Response Center has received a call from Arkema reporting that the facility in Crosby, TX did explode. NRC report attached.

NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER 1-800-424-8802
GOVERNMENT USE ONLYGOVERNMENT USE ONLY***
Information released to a third party shall comply with any
applicable federal and/or state Freedom of Information and Privacy Laws

Incident Report # 1188881

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

*Report taken by: CIV BRANDON WEATHERLY at 04:19 on 31-AUG-17

Incident Type: FIXED
Incident Cause: EXPLOSION
Affected Area:

Incident was discovered on 31-AUG-17 at 02:45 local incident time.

Affected Medium: AIR /ATMOSPHERE

REPORTING PARTY

Name: DARYL ROBERTS

Organization: ARKEMA

Address: 900 FIRST AVE.

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA

19406

daryl.roberts@arkema.com

Email Address:

PRIMARY Phone: (251)6047114

Type of Organization: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

SUSPECTED RESPONSIBLE PARTY

Name: N/A

Organization: ARKEMA

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406

Type of Organization: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

INCIDENT LOCATION

1800 CROSBY EAST GATE RD. County: HARRIS

City: CROSBY State: TX Zip: 77532

RELEASED MATERIAL(S)

CHRIS Code: UNK Official Material Name: UNKNOWN MATERIAL

Also Known As: UNKNOWN CHEMICALS

Qty Released: 0 UNKNOWN AMOUNT

Qty in Water: 0 UNKNOWN AMOUNT

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

THE RP IS REPORTING A RELEASE OF UNKNOWN CHEMICALS DUE TO A CHEMICAL MANUFACTURING FACILITY EXPLOSION. RP STATED THAT THE EXPLOSION IS BEING LINK POWER OUTAGE AT THE FACILITY AND THE MATERIALS BEING STORED IN THE FACILITY (M NOTABLY PEROXIDE). RP STATED THAT THERE WAS A PREVIOUS MANDATORY EVACUATION THE LOCAL FIRE CHIEF OF 1.5 MILES. RP STATED THAT THE PLANT WAS ALSO PREVIOUSLY EVACUATED. NO REPORTED INJURIES AT THIS TIME. CURRENTLY THE ONLY BELIEVED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT IS ATMOSPHERE WITH THE CHEMICALS BEING BURNED C THE EXPLOSION.

INCIDENT
DETAILS

Package: NO

Building ID:

Type of Fixed Object: CHEMICAL FACILITY

Power Generating Facility: NO

Generating Capacity:

Type of Fuel:

NPDES:
NPDES Compliance: UNKNOWN

IMPACT

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Fire Involved: YES | Fire Extinguished: NO | | |
| INJURIES: | NO | Hospitalized: | Empl/Crew: |
| FATALITIES: | NO | Empl/Crew: | Passenger: |
| EVACUATIONS: | YES | Who Evacuated: | EVERYONE Radius/Area: |
| Damages: | NO | | |

Hou

| <u>Closure Type</u> | <u>Description of Closure</u> | <u>Closed</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|

Air: N

Road:

Waterway: N

Track: N

Passengers Transferred: NO
Environmental Impact: UNKNOWN
Media Interest: UNKNOWN Community Impact due to Material:

REMEDIAL ACTIONS

RP STATED THAT THERE ARE LOCAL FIRE DEPARMENTS ON SCENE RESPONDING.

Release Secured: UNKNOWN
Release Rate:
Estimated Release Duration:

WEATHER

ADDITIONAL AGENCIES NOTIFIED

Federal:

State/Local:

State/Local On Scene: FD

State Agency Number:

NOTIFICATIONS BY NRC

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (GRASP)

31- 04:33 (770)4887100
AUG-
17

CGIS HOUSTON (SPECIAL AGENT CGIS)

31- 04:33 (409)6827808
AUG-
17

CHEM SAFETY AND HAZARD INVEST BOARD (CSB AUTOMATIC NOTIFICATIONS)

31- 04:33 (202)3780334
AUG-
17

DHS DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY (CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGIES DEPARTMENT)

31- 04:33 (703)7673477
AUG-
17

DHS TEXAS FUSION CENTER (INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS)

31- 04:33 (202)3068204
AUG-
17

DOT CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:33 (202)3661863
AUG-
17

U.S. EPA VI (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:35 (866)3727745 OSC FIFE
AUG-
17

FBI STRATEGIC INFO OPERATIONS CNTR (MAIN OFFICE)

(202)3233300

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA RESPONSE WATCH CENTER)

31- 04:33 (800) 6347084
AUG-
17

USCG NATIONAL COMMAND CENTER (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:33 (202) 3722100
AUG-
17

HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT (CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION)

31- 04:33 (713) 3088700
AUG-
17

HOUSTON REGIONAL INTEL SERVICE (FUSION CENTER)

31- 04:33 (713) 8844710
AUG-
17

JFO-LA (COMMAND CENTER)

31- 04:33 (225) 3366513
AUG-
17

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE COORD CTR (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:33 (202) 2829201
AUG-
17

NOAA RPTS FOR TX (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:33 (206) 5264911
AUG-
17

NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER HQ (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:33
AUG-
17

NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER HQ (AUTOMATIC REPORTS)

31- 04:33 (202) 2671136
AUG-
17

NTSB PIPELINE (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:33 (202) 3146293
AUG-
17

HOMELAND SEC COORDINATION CENTER (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:33 (202) 2828300
AUG-
17

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ADMIN (DALLAS OFFICE)

31- 04:33 (801) 9180995
AUG-
17

PORT OF HOUSTON AUTH POLICE DEPT (POLICE DEPARTMENT)

31- 04:33 (713) 6703611
AUG-
17

PORT OF HOUSTON AUTH POLICE DEPT (HSEES DIRECTOR)

04:33 (713) 6702642

31-
AUG-
17
PIPELINE & HAZMAT SAFETY ADMIN (OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY (AUTO))
31- 04:33 (202)3660568
AUG-
17
PIPELINE & HAZMAT SAFETY ADMIN (OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY WEEKDAYS (VERBAL))

(202)3661863

REPORTING PARTY (RP SUBMITTER)

31- 04:33
AUG-
17
RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS (PIPELINE SAFETY)
31- 04:33 (512)4630503
AUG-
17
SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPT (SOUTHWEST FUSION CENTER (SWFC))

31- 04:33 (210)2077680
AUG-
17
SECTOR HOUSTON-GALVESTON (COMMAND CENTER)

(281)4644855

TCEQ (MAIN OFFICE)

31- 04:33 (800)8328224
AUG-
17
TCEQ (REGION 12)

31- 04:33 (512)2392507
AUG-
17
DEPT OF ENERGY STPR (STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE-EMERGENCY MGMT)
31- 04:33 (504)7344113
AUG-
17
TEXAS FUSION CENTER (COUNTER TERRORISM)

31- 04:33 (866)7865972
AUG-
17
TX GENERAL LAND OFFICE (TXGLO REGION 2)
31- 04:33 (281)4706597
AUG-
17
TEXAS STATE OPERATIONS CENTER (COMMAND CENTER)
31- 04:33 (512)4242208
AUG-
17
USCG DISTRICT 8 (MAIN OFFICE)

04:33 (504)5896225

31-
AUG-
17
USCG DISTRICT 8 (PLANNING)
31- 04:33 (504)6712080
AUG-
17
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE (REGION 2 SPILL RESPONSE COORDINATOR)
31- 04:33 (505)2486652
AUG-
17

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**RP WILL NOTIFY DHS, USCG, TCEQ, AND HARRIS COUNTY NEXT.

*** END INCIDENT REPORT #

1188881 ***

Report any problems by calling 1-800-424-8802
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil>

1 2210305 []

[Close Window]

<NRC 1188881.pdf>